

THE CENTER  
—FOR—  
CHARTER SCHOOLS  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

**For Immediate Release**

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**Three years in a row International Academy of Flint  
named one of US News and World Reports' Best High Schools**

For the third year in a row, the International Academy of Flint (IAF), managed by SABIS® Educational Systems, Inc., received a Bronze Award as one of the nation's top performing high schools as ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*. The January 2010 issue hit the newsstands during the Christmas holiday.

"Proud does not even begin to describe the feeling we had when we learned of IAF's Bronze Award designation for its third straight year," said Jim Goenner, executive director, The Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University, IAF's authorizer. "The International Academy of Flint is a school that has made a significant and positive impact on its students and community."

*U.S. News & World Report*—in collaboration with School Evaluation Services, a K-12 education and data research and analysis business that provides parents with education data—analyzed academic and enrollment data from more than 21,000 public high schools to find the very best across the country. These top schools were placed into gold, silver, bronze, or honorable mention categories.

"We have the best job in the world to teach our kids and provide the best learning environment and support to the community," said Traci Cormier, IAF administrator. "To see we made the ranking as one of the nation's best performing high schools for the third straight year was amazing and such a source of pride for our teachers, board members, parents, staff and more importantly our students."

IAF offers grades kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> serving more than 1,100 students and has been open since 1999. Its mission is "The International Academy of Flint will: prepare each student for success in college; inspire a life-long love of learning; foster responsible citizenship."

In addition to its third Bronze Medal designation, IAF boasts recognition from the Michigan Department of Education as a "Beating the Odds" school in 2008; this honor was given to schools that had over 60% academic proficiency with 50% or more of its students being eligible for a free/reduced lunch, and received the Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA) "School of Excellence" Award for 2008-2009. IAF also received the Keep Genesee County Beautiful School Award for the second consecutive year and a \$1,500 grant was awarded to continue its initiatives.

In its community, IAF has prepared Thanksgiving meals for hundreds of local families for the past two years and has held Warm the Kids clothing drives literally collecting and distributing thousands of pieces of clothing within the community.

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